

Education

- Ph.D.** 1996, University of Iowa, Educational Psychology
M.A. 1994, University of Iowa, Educational Psychology
B.A. 1987, University of Iowa, Physical Education & Dance (major in Exercise Science)

6160 31st Street NW
Washington, DC 20015-1516

Professional Experience

President, edCount, LLC – 2003 to present

Founded and direct edCount, LLC, a consultancy group providing services in the areas of education assessment, evaluation, data management, reporting, and accountability. Major clients include several US states and the following –

US Department of Education (2003 to present, 1998-2000) – Provide guidance and consulting services on standards, assessment, and accountability for the US Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. Served as a Peer Reviewer of state accountability systems under NCLB and chaired the consulting team that drafted the Standards and Assessments Peer Review Guidance for NCLB in early 2003. Currently involved in reviews of several state assessment systems.

Council of Chief State School Officers (2001 to present) – Consult on assessment and accountability issues with representatives of state departments of education from across the country. Recently completed “A Framework for Examining Validity in State Accountability Systems”. In 2003-04, co-authored two major analyses of the state NCLB accountability workbooks and amendments; a third analysis in this series will be published in fall 2005. In 2002, wrote “A Guide to Effective Accountability Reporting”, a resource manual for state, district, and school personnel on the creation of effective education accountability reports that won the 2004 American Educational Research Association Division H Award for Outstanding Staff Assessment Training.

The Education Alliance at Brown (2004 to present) — Lead the taskforce charged with developing policies, instruments, and practices for the comprehensive K-12 territory-wide assessment system for the US Virgin Islands. Work in partnership with taskforces developing K-12 standards and accountability plans.

Teach for America (2003 to 2004) — Provide guidance on evaluation strategies for use at the Corps Member (teacher), region, and program levels.

Director of Student Assessment, Baltimore City Public Schools – 2002 to 2003

Directed assessment operations for the Baltimore City Public School System. Coordinated local administration and reporting for Maryland standards-based testing as well as for locally mandated norm-referenced assessments. Conducted analyses and wrote reports for the Board of School Commissioners. Coordinated data management, analysis, and reporting systems in partnership with the accountability, research, and evaluation teams at BCPSS.

Senior Research Analyst, American Institutes for Research – 2000 to 2002

Member of the assessment team and served as Director of Communications for Ohio’s K-5 assessments. Designed performance reports, interpretive documents, and materials and procedures for training, professional development, and public relations. For the National Longitudinal Evaluation of Comprehensive School Reform, developed a framework for analyzing the designs of comprehensive school reform models. In 2002, led or contributed significantly to bid efforts resulting in procurements worth over \$100,000,000.

Education Consultant, Bureau of Student Assessment and Research, Connecticut State Department of Education – 1997-2000

Evaluated and then redesigned the system of assessment reports for the Connecticut Mastery Tests, Connecticut’s statewide testing program for students in grades 4, 6, and 8. Designed and produced accountability reports at the school, district, and state levels. Conducted evaluations of districts and schools for the purposes of state and Title I accountability and education reform. Served as an advisor for CSRD and charter school evaluations and for local education agencies on the management, analysis, and use of standards-based assessment data. Represented Connecticut on national consortia and panels related to assessment, accountability, and education indicators. (Please note that although the job title was “consultant”, this was a regular, full-time position.)

Project Director, National Evaluation Systems, Inc. – 1996–1997

Directed high-stakes education licensure assessment projects for a private assessment company. Responsibilities included leading day-to-day operations of assessment programs; serving as a primary contact with clients representing national and state education agencies; conducting qualitative and quantitative research studies in response to client needs; and facilitating item review and standard-setting conferences.

Professional Organizations, Service, & Honors

Technical Advisory Committee Member (2004-present), South Dakota Department of Education

Technical Advisory Committee Member (2006-present), Louisiana Department of Education

Planning Committee Member (2006-2010), Council of Chief State School Officers National Conference on Large Scale Assessment

Advisory Board (2005-present), National Council on Measurement in Education Newsletter

Division H Publication Award for Outstanding Staff Assessment Training (2004) for *A Guide to Effective Accountability Reporting*

Editorial Board Member, NCLB Alert, published by Eli Research.

Chair (2004-2005)/Program Chair (2002-2003), School Indicators and Profiles Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association

Advisory Panel Member for State Education Indicators Project, Council of Chief State School Officers and United States Department of Education (1999)

Chair, School Accountability and Adequate Yearly Progress Study Group, State Collaborative on Assessment and Student Standards, Council of Chief State School Officers (1999)

Iowa Testing Program Special Research Assistantship (1992-1995)

University of Iowa Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (1995); T. Anne Cleary Psychological Research Award (1994); Howard Jones Achievement Award (1993)

Member, American Educational Research Association; National Council on Measurement in Education; National Society for the Study of Education; National Association of Secondary Principals

Publications & Presentations

Erpenbach, W.J. & Forte, E. (2005). *Statewide Educational Accountability Under the NCLB Act—A Report on 2005 Amendments to State Plans.* **Washington DC: Council of Chief State School Officers.**

Forte, E. (June, 2005). *Can AYP be modified so it is both politically viable and educationally defensible?* Presentation at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, San Antonio, TX.

Forte, E. (June, 2005). *State accountability plans: Works still in progress.* Presentation at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, San Antonio, TX.

Forte, E. (June, 2005). *NCLB and decision consistency: Contributions of state design features.* Presentation at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, San Antonio, TX.

Forte Fast, E. (April, 2005). *Next: What Should Be Retained, Adjusted, or Scrapped in the Current Federal Education Policy?* Organizer and Moderator for an Invited Symposium at the Annual Meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education, Montreal, Canada.

Forte Fast, E. & Erpenbach, W.J. (April, 2005). *States' NCLB Accountability Plans: Conformity, Confrontation, and Intrigue.* Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Montreal, Canada.

Forte Fast, E. (April, 2005). *Examining validity issues in state accountability systems.* Organizer and co-facilitator (with Brian Gong and Arthur Coleman) for a training pre-session at the Annual Meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education, Montreal, Canada.

Forte Fast, E. (April, 2005). *Division H Vice-Presidential Series: Developing Quality Reports and Sharing Highlighted Findings Leading of 2004 Outstanding Publications Recognition.* Invited presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Montreal, Canada.

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- Forte Fast, E. (April, 2005). *Designing a State's NCLB Tests to be Instructionally Supportive: The Wyoming Experience*. Discussant for session at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Montreal, Canada.
- Forte Fast, E. (April, 2005). *Developing Indicators of School Performance*. Chair for Business Meeting of the School Indicators and Profiles Special Interest Group at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Montreal, Canada.
- Forte Fast, E. & Erpenbach, W.J. (2004).** *Revisiting Statewide Educational Accountability Under NCLB: An Examination of States' Initial Requests for Amendment Under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. Washington DC: Council of Chief State School Officers.
- Forte Fast, E. & Hebbler, S. (2004).** *A Framework for Examining Validity in State Accountability Systems*. Washington DC: Council of Chief State School Officers.
- Forte Fast, E. (June, 2004). *Proficiency under NCLB: Aligning the standards for stakes*. Organizer, moderator, and presenter at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, Boston, MA.
- Forte Fast, E. (June, 2004). *Examining the validity of state accountability systems: Will decisions based on AYP models hold up?* Presentation at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, Boston, MA.
- Forte Fast, E. (June, 2004). *States' requests to amend their accountability plans: A preliminary summary*. Presentation at the quarterly meeting of the Accountability Systems and Reporting—State Collaborative on Assessment and Student Standards, Council of Chief State School Officers, Boston, MA.
- Forte Fast, E. (April, 2004). *A Framework for Examining Validity in State Accountability Systems*. Organizer, moderator, and presenter for a national workshop sponsored by the Accountability Systems and Reporting and the Comprehensive Assessment Systems State Collaboratives on Assessment and Student Standards, Council of Chief State School Officers, Minneapolis, MN.
- Forte Fast, E. (April, 2004). *Evaluating State Accountability Systems: Validity and Reliability in the Context of NCLB*. Organizer and Moderator for an Invited Symposium at the Annual Meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education, San Diego, CA.
- Forte Fast, E. (April, 2004). *Developing a Framework for Ensuring the Validity of State Accountability Systems*. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.
- Erpenbach, W.J., Forte Fast, E., & Potts, A. (2003). *Statewide Educational Accountability Under NCLB: Central Issues Arising from an Examination of State Accountability Workbooks and ED Reviews Under the NCLB Act of 2001*. Washington DC: Council of Chief State School Officers.
- Forte Fast, E. (2003). *Improving reporting and use of data in accountability systems*. Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Forte Fast, E. (June, 2003). *States' NCLB accountability plans: 14 apparent absolutes, 9 unanticipated nods, 7 not-yet-sures, and 6 interesting strategies*. Presentation at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, San Antonio, TX.
- Forte Fast, E. (October, 2003). *Evaluation of student progress: Strategies for Teach for America*. Presented at the National Program Conference for Teach for America Program Directors, Washington, DC.
- Forte Fast, E. (September, 2003). *Validity and reliability of state accountability systems*. Invited presenter and moderator at the Implementing Adequate Yearly Progress in States' Accountability Systems workshop for state education agency personnel offered by the Council of Chief State School Officers, St. Louis, MO.
- Forte Fast, E. (2002) *A Guide to Effective Accountability Reporting*. Washington DC: Council of Chief State School Officers and US Department of Education.
- Forte Fast, E. (June, 2002). *Assessments that illuminate instruction: Important, but maybe not enough*. Discussant for session at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, Palm Desert, CA.

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- Forte Fast, E. (June, 2002). *Using large-scale assessment data in large-scale evaluations*. Organizer and moderator for session at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, Palm Desert, CA.
- Forte Fast, E. (June, 2002). *Does testing research influence testing policy?* Invited panelist at the Education Writers' Association Conference, Cambridge, MA.
- Herman, R., Aladjem, D., Borman, K., Hess, M., Hoffer, T., Shive, J. & Forte Fast, E. (April, 2002). *A large-scale mixed methods approach to studying comprehensive school reform*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Forte Fast, E., Aladjem, D., Shive, J., & Herman, R. (November, 2001). *A Review of the Design of Eight Comprehensive School Reform Models*. Annual Meeting of the American Evaluation Association, St. Louis, MO.
- Ferrara, S. & Forte Fast, E. (October, 2001). *Secondary School Standards and Reform in the United States with Illustrations From the States of Maryland and Connecticut*. Invited paper for the Istituto Nazionale di Documentazione per l'Innovazione e la Ricerca Educativa (INDIRE).
- Forte Fast, E. & Tucker, C. (April, 2001). *Redesign of the student assessment reporting system in Connecticut*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Seattle, Washington.
- Vispoel, W.P. & Forte Fast, E. E. (2000). *Response biases and their relation to sex differences in multiple domains of self-concept*. *Applied Measurement in Education*, 13, 79–97.
- Forte Fast, E. (January, 2000). *Rationale for selecting educational reporting indicators*. Invited presentation at the Issues in State Accountability: Making Informed Decisions about Accountability Reports workshop sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers, San Antonio, TX.
- Tucker, C. & Forte Fast, E. (June, 1999). *Autopsy of a canary: Searching for a theoretical framework to understand the underperformance of students from poor families and students of color*. Paper presented at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the council of Chief State School Officers, Snowbird, UT.
- Forte Fast, E. (June, 1999). *Successful implementation of standards-based reform*. Paper presented at the Annual Large Scale Assessment Conference of the Council of Chief State School Officers, Snowbird, UT.
- Forte Fast, E. (April, 1999). *Education indicators and accountability systems; Critical issues in development and reporting*. Invited panelist at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.
- Forte Fast, E. (March, 1999). *Elements of successful reform: A framework for Title I schools*. Invited presentation at the 1999–2000 ESEA Consolidated Application Workshop, sponsored by the Connecticut State Department of Education.
- Forte Fast, E. & Pikell, J. (1998). *Successful implementation of standards-based reform*. Connecticut State Department of Education. Funded by a grant from the United States Department of Education (CFDA #84.276).
- Forte Fast, E. & Vispoel, W.P. (April, 1997). *Relations between academic self-concepts and academic achievement: A cross-group comparison*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Vispoel, W.P., Forte Fast, E., & Boo, J. (April, 1996). *Effects of answer review and test anxiety on the psychometric and motivational characteristics of computer-adaptive and self-adaptive vocabulary tests*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of National Council on Measurement in Education, NYC, NY.
- Vispoel W.P., Brunsman, B., Forte Fast, E., & Blieler, T. (April, 1996). *Effects of answer feedback and test anxiety on the psychometric and motivational characteristics of computer-adaptive and self-adaptive vocabulary tests*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of National Council on Measurement in Education, NYC, NY.
- Vispoel, W.P. & Forte, E., E. (April, 1995). *Domain importance and involvement: Effects of the relations between domain-specific self-concepts and general self-esteem in pre-adolescence*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.

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- Vispoel W.P., Forte, E., & Bleiler, T. (April, 1995). *The multi-faceted, hierarchical structure of early adolescent self-concept*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA.
- Forte, E. & Vispoel, W.P. (April, 1994). *Response biases and their relation to gender differences in specific domains of self-concept*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Vispoel, W.P. & Forte, E. (April, 1994). *Predicting general self-esteem from domain-specific self-concepts: The role of importance and involvement*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New Orleans, LA.
- Forte, E. (March, 1994). *Attitudes and aptitudes: the making of gender bias in the classroom?* Invited address for the American Association of University Women, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.
- Forte, E. (May, 1993). *Differentiated assessment of self-concept: Understanding the diversity and growth of talent in creative domains*. Paper presented at the Wallace National Research Symposium on Talent Development, Belin Center for Giftedness, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.
- Forte, E. (March, 1993). *Turning points: The role of self-understanding in adolescent development of identity and motivation to achieve*. Invited address for the American Association of University Women, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA.
- Forte, E. (February, 1993). *Assessment of self-concept: Recognizing and fostering the development of talent in artistic domains*. Paper presented at the Esther Katz Rosen Symposium on the Psychological Development of Giftedness, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.

References

The following list includes some professionals in the field of education assessment and accountability who are particularly familiar with my recent work.

Council of Chief State School Officers –

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| Dr. Joseph Simpson, Deputy Executive Director,
Division of Leadership and Professional Development | 202/336-7000 |
| Dr. Rolf Blank, Director, Education Indicators Programs | 202/336-7044 |

US Department of Education –

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| Dr. Zollie Stevenson, Deputy Director of Title I | 202/2401-0113 |
| Drs. Grace Ross, Sue Rigney, Carlos Martinez, David Harmon, and Valeria Ford
Standards and Student Assessment Unit, OESE | 202/260-0934 |

Other Professionals –

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| Dr. W. James Popham, Professor Emeritus, UCLA | wpopham@ucla.edu |
| Ms. Patricia Sullivan, Director, Center for Education Policy | 202/822-8065 |
| Dr. Douglas A. Rindone, National Measurement Consultant
Harcourt Educational Measurement
(former Connecticut Bureau Chief for Research, Evaluation, and Student Assessment) | 413/525-4970 |
| Dr. Brian Gong, Executive Director, and Dr. Scott Marion, Associate Director
National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment | 603/766-7900 |
| Dr. Robin Taylor, Associate Secretary for Assessment and Accountability
Delaware Department of Education | 302/739-3902 |
| Dr. Pat Roschewski, Director of Assessment
Nebraska Department of Education | 402/471-2495 |
| Dr. Mitchell Chester, Assistant Superintendent for Policy and Accountability
Ohio Department of Education | 614/728-4510 |